

Message Text

SECRET

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60

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 DEAE-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 PM-07 DODE-00

SP-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /087 W

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R 061220Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3942

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

S E C R E T BANGKOK 9255

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT: BRIEFING FOR RTG OFFICIALS ON NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION

REF: RANGOON 1493

1. AGREE WITH SCENARIO PROPOSED BY RANGOON FOR BRIEFING THAI OFFICIALS ON U.S. SUPPORT FOR GUB NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EFFORTS. WE WILL STRESS FACT THAT U.S. AID WAS OFFERED TO ENABLE GUB TO STEP UP ITS OPERATIONS AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. WHILE RTG WILL NOT BE COMPLETELY HAPPY ABOUT THIS U.S. SUPPORT, SINCE IT WILL BE USED AGAINST DISSIDENT GROUPS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THEY WILL MAKE AN ISSUE OF IT.

2. WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT SOME GROUPS IN NORTH THAILAND MIGHT. MANY NORTHERN THAI SYMPATHIZE WITH DISSIDENT GROUPS IN BURMA AND THERE ARE OF COURSE REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE GROUPS LIVING IN THAILAND. THEY WILL OBVIOUSLY RESENT WHAT THEY WILL REGARD AS U.S. DEALING ITSELF INTO THE BURMESE INSURGENCY. WE ARE ASKING ALL ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION TO BE ALERT TO ANY INDICATION THAT THESE ELEMENTS MIGHT RESORT TO RETALIATORY ACTION AGAINST US.

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3. CONCUR ALSO WITH THE PROPOSAL TO INFORM THE GUB IN

THE COURSE OF ROUTINE CONTACTS OF THE US/RTG AGREEMENT TO
PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL FIVE HELICOPTERS. SUGGEST RANGOON
ALSO INFORM THE GUB THAT TWO HELICOPTERS FOR NARCOTICS USE
ARRIVED IN APRIL IN THAILAND AS PART OF AN AID PROGRAM
INITIATED TWO YEARS AGO. ALSO WE THINK IT IMPORTANT,
IN ORDER TO SHOW GUB WE ARE NOT LIMITING OUR EFFORTS SOLELY
TO ENFORCEMENT, TO MENTION TO THE BURMESE THAT WE ARE IN
THE PROCESS OF DISCUSSING WITH THE THAI A NARCOTICS-RELATED
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WHICH WILL COMPLEMENT THE CROP
SUBSTITUTION WORK OF THE THAI/UNPDAC.
MASTERS

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NNN

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